**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-37. (Canceled).

38.    (Currently Amended)  A method for providing access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system, the method comprising:

receiving, at a server, metadata defining a course catalog, from the external system;

sending, by the server, the course catalog to a client device <u>for presentation</u> [[;]] ~~presenting the course catalog~~ to a user at the client device, wherein the course catalog describes courses hosted by the external system;

~~receiving, at the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;~~

~~sending, by the client device, the selection to the server;~~

<u>receiving, from the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;</u>

communicating <u>at least one command from</u> ~~by~~ the server <u>to</u> ~~with~~ the external system<u>, in order</u> to provide <u>the user</u> access to the at least one selected course ~~to the user~~<u>, wherein the selected course is received by the client device from the external system for playing on the client device;</u>

~~retrieving, by the client device, the selected course from the external system and~~ ~~playing the selected course on the client device;~~

transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course; and

receiving a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user.

39.　　(Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a register command from the server to the external system that registers the user with the external system.

40.　　(Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting an enroll command from the server to the external system that enrolls the user in the at least one selected course.

41.　　(Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a launch command from the server to the external system that launches the at least one selected course.

42.-43.　　(Cancelled).

44.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein content of the courses hosted by the external system are stored in servers maintained by the external system.

45.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein content of the at least one selected coursed is displayed in response to the launch command.

46.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 38, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting commands from the server to the external system and receiving replies from the external system to the server.

47.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 46, wherein the commands are transmitted in accordance with simple object access protocol.

48.    (Currently Amended)  A machine-readable medium that stores executable instructions for providing access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system, the instructions causing a machine to execute a method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at a server, metadata defining a course catalog, from the external system;

sending, by the server, the course catalog to a client device <u>for presentation</u> [[;]] presenting the course catalog to a user at the client device, wherein the course catalog describes courses hosted by the external system;

receiving, at the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;

sending, by the client device, the selection to the server;

<u>receiving, from the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;</u>

communicating <u>at least one command from,</u> by the server <u>to,</u> with the external system<u>, in order</u> to provide <u>the user</u> access to the at least one selected course to the user, <u>wherein the selected course is received by the client device from the external system for playing on the client device</u>;

retrieving, by the client device, the selected course from the external system and playing the selected course on the client device;

transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course; and

receiving a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user.

49.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a register command from the server to the external system that registers the user with the external system.

50.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting an enroll command from the server to the external system that enrolls the user in the at least one selected course.

51.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a launch command from the server to the external system that launches the at least one selected course.

52.-53.        (Cancelled).

54.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein content of the courses hosted by the external system are stored in servers maintained by the external system.

55.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein content of the at least one selected coursed is displayed in response to the launch command.

56.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting commands from the server to the external system and receiving replies from the external system to the server.


57.    (Previously Presented)  The machine-readable medium of claim 56, wherein the commands are transmitted in accordance with simple object access protocol.


58.    (Currently Amended)  A system comprising at least one server for providing access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system, the at least one server comprising at least one processor to execute a method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at a server, metadata defining a course catalog, from the external system;

sending, by the server, the course catalog to a client device <u>for presentation</u> [[;]] ~~presenting the course catalog~~ to a user at the client device, wherein the course catalog describes courses hosted by the external system;

~~receiving, at the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;~~

~~sending, by the client device, the selection to the server;~~

<u>receiving, from the client device, a selection by the user of at least one course from the course catalog;</u>

communicating at least one command from, by the server to, with the external system, in order to provide the user access to the at least one selected course to the user, wherein the selected course is received by the client device from the external system for playing on the client device;

~~retrieving, by the client device, the selected course from the external system and playing the selected course on the client device;~~

transmitting, by the server, a track command to the external system for tracking the user activity through the at least one selected course; and

receiving a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user.

59.    (Previously Presented))  The system of claim 58, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a register command from the server to the external system that registers the user with the external system.

60.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 58, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting an enroll command from the server to the external system that enrolls the user in the at least one selected course.

61.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 58, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a launch command from the server to the external system that launches the at least one selected course.

62.-63.       (Cancelled).

64.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 58, wherein content of the courses hosted by the external system are stored in servers maintained by the external system.

65.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 58, wherein content of the at least one selected coursed is displayed in response to the launch command.

66.    (Previously Presented)  The system of claim 58, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting commands from the server to the external system and receiving replies from the external system to the server.

67.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 66, wherein the commands are transmitted in accordance with simple object access protocol.

68.    (Currently Amended)  An electronic learning system (ELS) that provides access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system that is not part of the ELS, the ELS comprising:

a front end that exchanges communications with a client device and with the external system to obtain access to the electronic course, wherein the communications with the external system include:

communicating at least one command from the ELS to the external system, in order to provide the user access to the at least one selected course,

transmitting a track command that tracks the user activity through the at least one selected course, and

receiving a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user;

a learning portal that runs software to view the electronic course; and

a back end that stores information that relates to the electronic course, wherein the stored information comprises metadata that defines a course catalog for the electronic course, and the course catalog describes courses hosted by the external system and includes a description of material in the courses, and further wherein the back end obtains the metadata from the external system and provides the course catalog to the client device.

69.    (Previously Presented)  An electronic learning system (ELS) for providing access to an electronic course that is hosted by an external system, the ELS comprising:

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a front end to mediate access to an electronic course that is retrieved by a client device and is hosted by an external system that is not part of the ELS, the front end interacting with the external system through a series of commands that contain identification and control information for use by the external system, the front end receiving responses to the commands including a response relating to progress through the electronic course, wherein said access mediation further comprises:

transmitting a track command that tracks the user activity through the at least one selected course, and

receiving a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user; and

a back end to maintain information on the ELS about the electronic course, wherein the stored information comprises metadata that defines a course catalog for the electronic course and the course catalog describes courses hosted by the external system and includes a description of material in the courses, and further wherein the back end obtains the metadata from the external system, and provides the course catalog to the client device.

70.    (Previously Presented)  A network for providing access to an electronic course, the network comprising:

a first electronic learning system (ELS) that hosts an electronic course; and

a second ELS that:

presents a course catalog to a user of the second ELS at a client device, wherein metadata defining the course catalog is received from the first ELS and describes courses hosted by the first ELS;

receives a selection of at least one course from the courses hosted by the first ELS by the user; and

accesses the at least one course over a network via a series of commands and responses, the series of commands and responses comprising:

a register command transmitted from the second ELS to the first ELS to register with the first ELS;

an enroll command transmitted from the second ELS to the first ELS to enroll in the at least one course;

a launch command transmitted from the second ELS to the first ELS to launch the at least one course;

a response to the launch command, the response being transmitted from the first ELS to the second ELS following receipt of the launch command by the first ELS, the response making accessible material from the at least one course to the second ELS;

a track command that tracks the user activity through the at least one selected course; and

a response to the track command, wherein the response comprises at least one of a percentage of material from the at least one selected course that has been viewed by the user, a test score associated with

material from the at least one selected course, or an amount of time spent

viewing material in the at least one electronic course by the user.

71.    (New)  The method of claim 38, further comprising:

receiving, at the server, from an administrator, a request to obtain activity records

of the user; and

transmitting the track command in response to the received request.

72.    (New)  The machine-readable medium of claim 48, the method further

comprising:

receiving, at the server, from an administrator, a request to obtain activity records

of the user; and

transmitting the track command in response to the received request.

73.    (New)  The system of claim 58, wherein the method performed by the at

least one processor further comprising the steps of:

receiving, at the server, from an administrator, a request to obtain activity records

of the user; and

transmitting the track command in response to the received request.